

Billboards spread the word on WorkOne

The WorkOne system in the Tecumseh Area Partnership, an eight county area centered in Lafayette, recently began advertising on billboards.

The billboards are a cooperative effort among local partners who bring employers and employees together and is part of an overall marketing plan.

The message is that there is "No Wrong Door" to WorkOne services in the Tecumseh Area.

If you would like to be added to our email list or would like to share ideas for future Developments topics, please contact dwieland@dwd.state.in.us.

Employment Trends

May Unemployment Rate

Indiana's non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for May was 4.8 percent. This is one percentage point below the national rate of 5.8 percent.

Just over 3 million Hoosiers were employed during May.

Indiana's May unemployment rate was lower than Michigan, 6.4 percent; Ohio, 5.8 percent; Illinois, 5.9 percent; and Kentucky at 5.5 percent.

June Unemployment Insurance Stats

Number of UI Claims Filed:

Week of 6-7-03	69,319
Week of 6-14-03	68,234
Week of 6-21-03	68,620
Week of 6-28-03	68,459

JOBS Facts

Job Opportunities and Business Services

Under the JOBS initiative, DWD will utilize ACT's WorkKeys system to assess job seekers' skills and help place them in the correct occupation. DWD will be able to provide WorkKeys assessments for 30,000 unemployed Hoosiers and incumbent workers, and will profile 1,800 jobs at companies in Indiana.

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Frank O'Bannon, Governor

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

Developments

HOOSIER WORKERS & LIFELONG LEARNING ONLINE NEWS

Breaking News

How-to forums on Energize Indiana are being held around the state

Governor Frank O'Bannon and Lieutenant Governor Joe Kernan are holding a series of twelve forums on "Energize Indiana" around the state. Representatives from five state agencies including DWD join the Governor and Lt. Governor to explain various components of "Energize Indiana."

Those attending the forum learn how "Energize Indiana" can help them create high-wage, high-skill jobs in four industry sectors - the life sciences, advanced manufacturing, information technology and high-tech distribution. Al Degner, commissioner of DWD, described JOBS a program that will among other things, assess workers' skills and profile job categories - and match them.

Forums have been held in Madison, Kokomo and Evansville. The next forum is scheduled for July 23 in Fort Wayne. Dates will be announced later for Gary, South Bend, Lafayette/West Lafayette, Terre Haute, Indianapolis, Muncie, Bloomington and New Albany. For additional information, visit our website at

www.workforce.in.gov/energize or stop by your local WorkOne Center.

GECOM awarded \$200,000 to train workers

A \$200,000 Advance Indiana grant was awarded to Greensburg Equipment and Components Manufacturing Corporation, Inc. (GECOM) by the Department of Workforce Development. GECOM is a global manufacturer of door latches, trunk locks, door handles, strikers and other components for leading automotive manufacturers. The project will enable 125 workers to enroll in associate degree programs and help an additional 70 workers receive apprenticeship training over the next two years.

Advance Indiana grants are a part of Governor Frank O'Bannon's Skills 2016 initiative, and focus on the same four industry sectors as his Energize Indiana plan. Those sectors include life sciences, high tech distribution, information technology and advanced manufacturing.

"New technologies and growing global trade continue to change the nature of Indiana's manufacturing sector and the skills needed to operate highly technical machinery," said Alan Degner, DWD commissioner. "This training will allow GECOM to develop its existing talent to meet the challenges of today's sophisticated workplace."

DWD announces UI benefits for victims of domestic and family violence

Governor Frank O'Bannon signed into law a bill that provides unemployment benefits for people who have either been forced to leave their jobs or were fired from their jobs because of domestic or family violence. Domestic violence victims were not previously eligible for unemployment benefits. Indiana joins 31 other states offering these benefits.

"This new law is good for working families, said Alan Degner, commissioner of the Department of Workforce Development. "These benefits may make the difference in preventing the victim from having to choose between getting away from the abuser and going back into that relationship out of financial desperation. They can help support a family until new employment is found in a safer environment."

Funding for these benefits comes from the unemployment trust fund. Benefits are not funded from personal taxes or employers' experience accounts. All claimants must meet normal Indiana unemployment insurance requirements for wages and other qualifying criteria. For more information contact the Department of Workforce Development Helpline at 1-888-WorkOne or visit your local WorkOne Center.